

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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TAGS: UNIDO, ABUD, AORG

SUBJECT: ALL ON UNIDO DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION - UNIDO
PROGRAM BUDGET - DONAUPARK

1. DURING CALL ON RISHOLM, UNIDO DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION,
WE INQUIRED AS TO TIMETABLE FORESEEN FOR
SUBMISSION TO NEW YORK OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PROPOSALS
WITH RESPECT TO UNIDO'S 1978-79 PROGRAM BUDGET AND
CONSEQUENT INFORMAL CIRCULATION TO IDB MEMBERS AS PROMISED
BY THE SECRETARY OF THE BOARD DURING RESUMED IDB-X.

2. RISHOLM STATED THAT PRESENT PROSPECT WAS FOR
COMPLETION BY UNIDO OF DRAFT 1978-79 PROGRAM BUDGET AND ITS
DESPATCH TO NEW YORK BY THE END OF JANUARY OR BEGINNING
OF FEBRUARY 1977. AT THAT TIME IT WOULD BE
CIRCULATED INFORMALLY TO BOARD MEMBERS. IN THIS CONNECTION,
RISHOLM OPINED THAT IT MIGHT BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR
NEW YORK TO HAVE READY FOR SUBMISSION TO THE PERMANENT
COMMITTEE AND THE BOARD THE UNIDO 1978-79 PROGRAM BUDGET
AS APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL. IN
THAT CASE THE IDB MIGHT HAVE TO BE CONTENT WITH
EXAMINING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PROPOSALS IN
CONTRAST TO PAST PROCEDURE UNDER WHICH THE BOARD
EXAMINED AND COMMENTED UPON THE SYG'S ESTIMATES
WHICH WERE DUE FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE ACABQ AND THE
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FIFTH COMMITTEE. WE NOTED THAT SUCH SITUATION MIGHT

HAVE POSSIBLE UNDESIRABLE IMPLICATIONS FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW AND WOULD HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED.

3. RISHOLM MAINTAINED THAT THIS POSSIBILITY HAD BEEN STRESSED TO THE BORD WHEN IT WAS CONSIDERING THE DATES OF PC-IX AND IDB-XI. HOWEVER, OUR CHECK OF SUMMARY RECORDS SHOWED ONLY (A) A STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (ID/B/SR.198, PARA 28) THAT THE SYG'S ESTIMATES COULD NOT BE EXPECTED BEFORE MARCH 1 AND THAT THE DATES SUGGESTED FOR PC-IX AND IDB-XI HAD TAKEN THAT INTO ACCOUNT AND, (B) A STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY OF THE BOARD (ID/B/SR.208, PARA 2) THAT DELEGATIONS WOULD RECEIVE THE DRAFT 1978-79 PROGRAM BUDGET AT THE SAME TIME IT WAS SENT TO THE SYG BUT THAT THE SIX-WEEKS RULE COULD NOT BE OBSERVED SO FAR AS THE FINAL PROGRAM BUDGET WAS CONCERNED.

4. DURING FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT RISHOLM ARGUED THAT AS A PRACTICAL MATTER IT WOULD MAKE LITTLE DIFFERENCE IF THE BOARD DEALT WITH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S ESTIMATES, SINCE WITH UNIDO "BECOMING A SPECIALIZED AGENCY" THE SYG WAS NOT DISPOSED TO LOOK TOO CLOSELY AT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REQUESTS AND IT COULD BE ASSUMED THAT LITTLE OR NO CHANGE WOULD BE MADE IN THEM BY NEW YORK.

5. IN RESPONSE TO OUR QUESTION HOW HE ENVISAGED RESPONDING TO THE IDB RESOLUTION ON MOVING UNIDO TO DONAUPARK (A/31/16 SUPPLEMENT NO. 16, PARA 58), RISHOLM SAID IT WAS THE SECRETARIAT'S INTENTION SIMPLY TO LIST IN THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT TO THE BOARD THE VARIOUS RELEVANT DOCUMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN ISSUED IN NEW YORK AND TO DESCRIBE THE ACTIONS TAKEN THEREON BY THE GA. IN THIS CONNECTION RISHOLM WARNED THAT THE COSTS TO MEMBER STATES OF MAINTENANCE IN DONAUPARK WOULD BE EXTREMELY HEAVY AND THAT A JUMP OF TWO TO THREE TIMES COMPARED WITH PRESENT MAINTENANCE COSTS MUST BE EXPECTED. HE SAID THAT IN HIS VIEW MOVING UNIDO TO DONAUPARK FROM ITS PRESENT LOCATION WAS "FINANCIAL MADNESS".
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6. IN ANSWER TO OUR INQUIRY AS TO THE OUTLOOK FOR AGREEMENTS ON COMMON SERVICES IN DONAUPARK, RISHOLM SAID THAT THIS WAS ONE OF HIS GREAT FRUSTRATIONS AND THAT HE DESPAIRED OF ANY SENSIBLE ARRANGEMENTS BEING WORKED OUT WITH THE IAEA. RISHOLM ASKED THAT HIS COMMENT BE TREATED AS OFF-THE-RECORD AND HELD IN CONFIDENCE.

7. COMMENT: IN THE PAST ONE OF THE G-77
PROPOSALS DESIGNED TO GIVE UNIDO GREATER AUTONOMY
IN RESPECT OF ITS BUDGET HAS BEEN TO HAVE THE BUDGET REQUESTS
PREPARED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SUBMITTED
DIRECTLY TO THE BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION AND
RECOMMENDATION TO THE FIFTH COMMITTEE. WE ARE
CONCERNED THAT ACCEPTANCE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
PROGRAM BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR EXAMINATION BY THE BOARD
IN LIEU OF THOSE OF THE SYG MIGHT SET AN UNDESIRABLE
PRECEDENT AND INTRODUCE A LOOSENING OF THE SYG'S
CONTROL IN THIS AREA. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY DEPT/USUN
VIEWS ON THIS FOR POSSIBLE FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH
RISHOLM. IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR USUN TO DISCUSS
WITH CHIEF OF UN BUDGET DIVISION WHETHER UNNY
CAN PRODUCE FINAL SYG ESTIMATES IN TIME FOR
SUBMISSION TO PC/IDB. PC-IX SCHEDULED TO MEET
MARCH 14 TO 19 AND IDB-XI FROM MARCH 21 TO APRIL 2, 1977.
ALTHOUGH SYG'S ESTIMATES CANNOT MEET SIX-WEEKS RULE,
THEY MIGHT NEVERTHELESS BE MADE AVAILABLE IN TIME FOR
THE BOARD'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED
TO THEM. STIBRAVY

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